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Excerpt from Testimony of L. Patrick Gray III (concluding day) before Senate Watergate Committee.Transcribed from tape, Reel 36, from 1344 feet on Side I (S106):

.....Sen. Baker: At this point, June 23, 1972, had anyone from the White House, or outside the FBI, tried to suggest to you that there was CIA involvement ?

Gray: Prior to this meeting on June 23 ?

Baker: Yes, sir.

Gray: Yes, Mr. Dean had, either at that evening meeting of June 22 or in the telephone call on the morning of June 23, and I said to him, if there is CIA involvement, let the CIA tell us.

Baker: All right, now, the reason for these questions, I hope, has begun to appear to you, Mr. Gray. The allegation is made, in a legitimate area of inquiry, to decide whether or not the White House, or anyone connected with the White House or the CRP tried to plant the idea that the CIA was involved, and to what extent, if any, that CIa or anyone in the CIA had tried to further that appearance.

Gray: That's correct, Senator.

Baker: When you called Helms, Helms said no, there is no CIA involvement. You talked to Dean. Dean suggested there might be. Then you talked to Walters, and Walters said you very well may uncover a CIA operation. Is that, in essence, what happened up to this point ?

Gray: That is correct, with the one exception that I told Mr. Dean that if there is CIA involvement, you let them tell us.

Baker: So Mr. Dean and General Walters were suggesting to you that there was CIA involvement after director Helms had already told you that there wasn't.

Gray: That's correct, Sir.

Baker: Now it appears on page 13 of your statement, Mr. Gray, that Director Helms called you -- and I don't see the date and I don't have it in my notes -- but at one point Director Helms called you and asked you NOT to interview active CIA men Carl Wagner* and John Caswell.*

Gray: Yes Sir, that was in a telephone conversation, Sen. Baker, I believe, which occurred on June 28. I'm sure it was - --

Baker: Do you know why Helms called you ? Were you in fact investigating these people or had you notified them you wanted to interview them ?

Gray: I didn't notify Director Helms that we were going to interview either one of those men, Sir.

Baker: Did you know that you were going to interview them ?

Gray: I didn't at the time that he called me, No Sir, I did not know, but I ---

Baker: Had you since learned that your agents were about to do that triggered Helms' interest, is that what you -- ?

Gray: I am saying that after Director Helms' call, I accepted his word, and I immediately ordered that the interviews of John Caswell and Carl Wagner be held in abeyance.

Baker: You indicate that, but what I am reaching for is why Helms called you ?

Gray: I don't know, Sir.

Baker: .....you might do that.[unintelligible] What was the reason for him trying to suggest that you not interview these two men ?

Gray: Sen. Baker, I don't know. But I know that I also have a telephone note in November which indicates that Director Helms had called my number 2 man, at that late date, that he, Director Helms, was going to call Asst. Atty Gen. Peterson regarding the interview of Carl Wagner to see if it could not be conducted. I don't know.

[*These names from a Hunt notebook (see page 2) not from Barker's. Caswell apparently was station chief in Mexico City].

Baker: It could not be conducted ? You mean --

Gray: Yes, that it would be held off.

Baker: Yes. Do you know who these two people are? Did you then or have you since learned ?

Gray: I do not know who John Caswell is, and I have since learned of Mr. wagner, and I believe I'm correct in saying this because I've learned it from the newspapers -- I believe that he was Gen.Cushman's executive assistant.

Baker: Was he Gen. Cushman's executive assistant at that time ?

Gray: I don't know Sir, I don't --

Baker: Do you know whether either of these names show up in conjunction with the Watergate affair ?

Gray: Yes, I have since learned that they were those names -- I believe ~~I'm correct in saying this, I know I'm correct in saying it with regard to~~ I'm correct in saying this, I know I'm correct in saying it with regard to Caswell, and I believe that I'm correct in saying it with regard to Wagner --that those names were in one of the notebooks -- little pocket telephone address ~~type~~ type notebooks that we uncovered -- and I believe that it was ~~Mr. Hunt's~~ notebook. But that would have to be subject to verification. I'm not that positive of it.

Baker: Do you know who has custody of that material now ?

Gray: No Sir, I would assume that the FBI does because those leads were sent out from the Washington Field Office..

Baker: Did you inquire of Director Helms why ~~you~~ he did not want Wagner and Caswell interviewed ?

Gray: No Sir, I did not. ~~Ixdx~~ In dealing with the people of the CIA I did not ask the questions along those lines. I accepted what they told me.

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